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NORTHEAST INCREASES RR CONSTRUCTION,
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

NORTHEAST ADJUSTS RR BUDGET -- Mukden Tung-pei Jih-pao, 9 Apr 50

Mukden -- The Northeast Railroad Bureau, between 10 March and 6 April, reviewed the 1950 budget for the five control bureaus and the various factory maintenance sections under its control. As a result of the survey, it was found that the Northeast Bureau could allow a 40-percent reduction in [additional] investments in Northeast railroads, bring about a balance of income and disbursements, and eliminate a large prospective deficit. It is also very possible that there will be a capital surplus for 1951.

This reconsideration of the railroad budget was the result of the directive of the Administration Council of the Central People's government, calling for the centralization of national financial and economic activities. According to this directive, all such activities are to be weighed according to their importance and urgency, and the less significant reconstruction projects are to be reduced, so that all resources may be concentrated on items of greatest importance. After the budget was reviewed, therefore, it was decided that many construction projects provided for in the original plan could be eliminated, although in terms of over-all reconstruction goals, plans call for an increase rather than a decrease.

For example, large-scale engineering projects included in the original plan for the large marshaling yards at Su-chia-t'un, Ta-ch'eng, Shan-hai-kuan, and Man-chou-li have not been abandoned; on the contrary, since smaller, less important projects have been eliminated, the completion of these large items is guaranteed. Also scheduled for completion in 1950 are 136 kilometers of double tracking between Shan-hai-kuan and Hsi-chou.

Prior to the review by the Northeast Bureau, the various control bureaus, on their own initiative, had re-examined their resources in detail and in many cases had voluntarily curtailed their expenditures. For example, the Hsi-chou Control Bureau had estimated that to restore the double-track line between Mukden and Shan-hai-kuan, it was necessary for the control bureau to receive an additional 100 kilometers of rails from national stocks, but this figure was finally shaved to 28 kilometers after re-examination.

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It was found that similar savings could also be made in manpower. The control bureaus have claimed in the past that they had an insufficient number of laborers and in January - February 1950 hired an additional 24,873 persons, which was still deemed insufficient. During the review period, however, it was found that, except for the Ch'i-ch'i-ha-erh Control Bureau which was truly in need of more personnel, the Hsi-chou, Mukden, and Kirin control bureaus had a surplus amounting altogether to almost 3,000 persons. These workers will be returned to the jurisdiction of the Northeast Railroad Bureau for distribution among construction gangs.

In conducting its budget review, the Northeast Bureau examined each budgetary item of each control bureau. It first issued a general directive and then secured an over-all report from each control bureau chief. After that, a detailed report was obtained from the various operational agencies of the control bureaus. These reports were considered item by item by a budget review board established by the Northeast Bureau. The board not only considered the importance and urgency of construction projects, but also decided on priorities, taking into account the sources and time of arrival of construction materials and other related problems. An order was then drafted by the board, accompanied by engineering, materials, and budgeting plans, which were adopted after the approval of the Northeast Bureau.

REPORTS MARCH QUOTA RESULTS -- Hankow Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 12 Apr 50

Mukden, 11 April (Hsin-hua) -- According to data from the Planning Office of the Northeast Department of Industry, 75 percent of the state-operated factories and mines under the department's control met or exceeded their March quotas. Of 34 important items of production, the quota was reached or exceeded in 26. Production of electric wire exceeded the quota by 81 percent, industrial belts by 60 percent, cement by 48.6 percent, sulfuric acid by 42 percent, electrolytic copper by 41 percent, and steel ingots produced in electric furnaces by 36 percent.

The Pen-ch'i Coal and Iron Company met all its quotas except in steel ingots, which reached 97 percent, and electric power generation, which was only 80 percent of the quota.

26 FACTORIES TOP FIRST-QUARTER PLANS -- Peiping Jen-min Jih-pao, 11 Apr 50

Mukden, 10 April -- Three fourths of the state-owned factories in the Northeast fulfilled their planned output for the first quarter of 1950. According to data released by the Department of Industry of the Northeast People's Government, out of 34 factories under its control, 26 exceeded the planned output.

Output exceeded the goals for: electric wires by 81 percent, V-shape belts by 60 percent, cement by 48.6 percent, heavy sulfuric acid by 42 percent, copper wires by 41 percent, and steel ingots by 36 percent. All the principal light-industry factories and every section of the Pen-ch'i steel mill, with the exception of the open-hearth section and the electric power plant, also completed the planned output. The open-hearth section completed 97 percent of the planned output and the electric power plant, 80 percent.

TEXTILE MACHINE PLANTS TO MOVE TO MUKDEN -- Shanghai Wen-hui-pao, 9 Apr 50

Shanghai -- The No 1 and No 2 Su-chung Machine-Manufacturing Plants of Shanghai, specializing in textile machinery, will soon be relocated in Mukden. The No 1 Plant, located in South Shanghai, employs 104 workers; the No 2 Plant, in East Shanghai, employs 140.

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The 1949 blockade cut off raw material sources and marketing channels from these plants. Management was lax in dealing with the problem, so the workers then proposed to change production policies, reduce expenditures, and move inland. The bombings since 6 February 1950 brought increased difficulties, and it was suggested that the plants might be moved to Mukden. The Northeast Textiles Office then guaranteed that the salary of a middle-grade technician would support four people and that the housing problem could be solved. On 8 April, all agreed to the move, and a merger was proposed with the Textile Machinery Manufacturing Plant of the Northeast Textiles Control Bureau, since the latter is not equipped to make molds for castings and spindles which are at a premium. The plant estimates a yearly production of 10,000 spindles following the merger.

The Northeast Textiles Office hopes that half of the workmen will make the move. Expenses incurred in moving the family are to be paid. Baggage space is limited, but some may be brought along if there is space in the cars. The monthly salary for a middle-grade technician will be 200 parity units. Arrangements for sending remittances to Shanghai will be made to the advantage of the workmen.

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